Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:DBLAKEMORE:FLW APPROVED BY EA/K - MR. RICH EA/ANP - MR. HURWITZ EA/J - MR. FEATHERSTONE (INFO) DOD/ISA - LT.COL. MCCLURE

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R 190053Z JAN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCPAC

SECDEF

UNC REAR CP ZAMA JA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 014651

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

 $TAGS: MARR, \, KS, \, US$

SUBJECT: UNC REAR

REF: A) SEOUL 8124, 9/23/77, B) SEOUL 6588, 8/5/77, C) SEOUL 6246, 7/26/77

1. UK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON CONFIRMS THAT ASSIGNMENT OF A CONFIDENTIAL

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BRITISH MILITARY OFFICER AND ENLISTED MAN TO UNC REAR WILL NOT EXTEND BEYOND JULY 1978, AT LEAST NOT WITHOUT ARRANGEMENTS TO REIMBURSE THE UK FOR CARRYING THIS RESPONSIBILITY. THUS WE HAVE TWO OPTIONS: REPLACEMENT OF THE UK CONTINGENT WITH MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES OF ANOTHER NATION, OR ARRANGEMENTS TO REIMBURSE THE UK.

- 2. IN PURSUIT OF THE FIRST ALTERNATIVE, WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY HERE THAT THE GOA STILL HAS UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION A PROPOSAL TO MAN UNC REAR WITH AUSTRALIANS. INFORMALLY THE AUSTRALIANS HERE BELIEVE THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THE GOA WILL AGREE TO ASSIGN MEN TO UNC REAR, BUT NOT WITHOUT THE FORMAL APPROVAL OF THE PRIME MINISTER. UNFORTUNATELY THE MATTER IS NOT EXPECTED TO COME TO THE PM'S ATTENTION UNTIL EARLY FEBRUARY. MEANWHILE THE BRITISH ARE PRESSING FOR A DECISION BY THE END OF JANUARY ON HOW WE WILL PROCEED.
- 3. EMBASSY CANBERRA IS REQUESTED TO INQUIRE INFORMALLY AS TO THE STATE OF PLAY ON THIS QUESTION WITHIN THE GOA, AND IN PARTICULAR TO TRY TO DETERMINE THE LIKELY CONTENT AND TIMING OF THE GOA DECISION. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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